

July 16, 2004

Dear :

By resolution adopted on March 10, 2004 (attached), the General Assembly requested that the Virginia State Corporation Commission ("Commission") study the placement of utility distribution lines underground. The General Assembly directed the Commission to solicit the participation of interested parties, and to submit an executive summary and progress report no later than the first day of the regular session of the General Assembly in 2005. The study shall not only address the feasibility of locating utility distribution lines underground, but shall also examine the costs of such activity and the options for funding those costs.

To assist the Commission, the Staff is soliciting the participation of interested parties in this study. If you or representatives of your organization are interested in participating, please respond to the generic questions enclosed with this letter by August 5, 2004. Responses to the generic questions should be submitted in writing as follows: two copies to Mr. W. Timothy Lough, Ph.D., P.E., Special Projects Engineer, Division of Energy Regulation, P.O. Box 1197, Richmond, Virginia 23218, and one copy to Larry J. Kubrock, Senior Telecommunications Specialist, Division of Communications, P.O. Box 1197, Richmond, Virginia 23218.

The Staff is also hosting a meeting in Richmond on August 16, 2004, to discuss the responses to the generic questions and provide additional input for the feasibility study. Please notify the Staff by July 29, 2004, using the attached form, if you or a representative of your organization is planning on attending the meeting. Logistics for the meeting will be communicated once the level of attendance has been determined. If you know of anyone else who would be interested in participating, please provide them with a copy of this letter or ask them to contact Tim Lough at 804-371-9590.

Very truly yours,

William F. Stephens, Director
Division of Energy Regulation

William Irby, Director
Division of Communications

Attachment